

Remarks:

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on February 28, 2008. In that Office Action, under **Election/Restrictions**, restriction to one of the following inventions is required:

Group I, claim(s) 2-31, drawn to a blood substitute/hemoglobin.

Group II, claim(s) 32-56, drawn to an optical imaging/treatment steps.

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, with the traverse, the Claims 2-31 drawn to Group I. Applicants have cancelled Claims 32 - 56, without prejudice to their right to file divisional applications directed to the subject matter of those claims. And the Examiner has indicated that Claims 1, 57-82 will be examined with the elected invention.

Applicants respectfully object to this restriction requirement. The Examiner has stated that the international search has revealed that the technical feature is not novel since it is disclosed in Kim, Jeehyun, Joseph W. Villard, Ho Lee, Marc D. Feldman, and Thomas E. Milner. "Murine myocardium OCT imaging with a blood substitute". Proc. SPIE Int. Soc. Opt. Eng. 4619, 165 (2002). The Applicant respectfully asserts that Kim et al. is a reference by all of the inventors of the present application. Consequently, Groups I-II do comply with the requirement of unity of invention.

Summary

Applicant draws the Examiner's attention to the Revocation of Power of Attorney with new Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address being submitted concurrently with this Response.

The Director is authorized to deduct any deficiencies in fees from Deposit Account No. 18-2000, of which the undersigned is an authorized signatory.

Should the Examiner find that there are any outstanding matters which are susceptible of resolution by telephone interview; the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss the same.

Respectfully submitted



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March 28, 2008

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Attorney Docket No. 6100-009
Customer No.: 29,335